

Printer Basics



Printed on recycled paper.

nglish

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Contents

WELCOME!	1
About Your Software	1
About Your Documentation	3
Warnings, Cautions, Notes, and Tips	3
Windows System Requirements	4
Important Safety Instructions	5
Ink Cartridge Safety Instructions	6
VIEWING YOUR ELECTRONIC PRINTER MANUAL	7
Accessing Your Electronic Printer Manual	7
Navigating Your Electronic Printer Manual	8
PRINTING FROM START TO FINISH	9
Basic Printing	9
Loading Paper	9
Opening the Printer Software	10
Selecting Printer Software Settings	11
Controlling Printing	13
Using PhotoEnhance, Custom, and Advanced Settings	14
Using PhotoEnhance	14
Using Custom Settings	15
Using Advanced Settings	15
Using Special Papers	16
EPSON Photo Paper	16
Envelopes	18
Selecting the Correct Media Type	19

MAINTAINING YOUR PRINTER	21
Cleaning the Print Head	21
Printing a Nozzle Check	22
Using the Head Cleaning Utility	23
Aligning the Print Head	24
Replacing an Ink Cartridge	25
Ink Cartridge Precautions	26
Replacing a Low or Empty Ink Cartridge	27
Replacing an Outdated Ink Cartridge	28
Cleaning the Printer	29
Transporting the Printer	30
PROBLEM SOLVING	31
Identifying Printer Parts	32
Problems and Solutions	33
Problems Setting Up the Printer or Installing Software	33
Problems with Printing	34
Problems Getting Good Print Quality	36
Problems with Paper Feeding	38
Solving Miscellaneous Printout Problems	40
Uninstalling and Reinstalling Printer Software	40
Where To Get Help	41
EPSON Technical Support	41
EPSON Accessories	42
Bonus Software Technical Support	42
INDEX	43

Welcome!

Your EPSON Stylus[®] COLOR 480SX is a user-friendly, photo quality printer that's perfect for printing all your home projects—from homework assignments and envelopes to full-color greeting cards and banners.

The printer comes with these features:

- EPSON's exclusive Micro Piezo[™] ink jet technology for cleaner printed dots
- Resolutions up to 720 by 720 dpi (dots per inch), even on plain paper
- Four-color printing for photo quality color and sharp black text from separate black and color ink cartridges
- No front panel control buttons or lights—just follow the on-screen instructions to control all printing and maintenance functions

About Your Software

The printer software CD-ROM includes all the software you need for printing:

- Your printer driver runs your printer and lets you control how your documents look. You can't use your printer without it.
- Vour electronic *Reference Guide* gives you complete information about your printer. (You need an HTML browser—such as Microsoft[®] Internet Explorer or Netscape[®] Navigator,[®] version 3.0 or later—to view the guide.)

Arcsont photo Printer

ArcSoft photo

ArcSoft[™] PhotoPrinter[™] 2000

A photo layout program that lets you print your images in creative formats, such as multiple photo montages, framed or bordered pictures, and calendars. Using a variety of templates, you can print your photos almost any way you can think of.

ArcSoft PhotoFantasy[™] 2000

Lets you create "photo fantasies" by combining your personal photos with a wide selection of hilarious fantasy backgrounds.

DEVELOPMENT DEVELOPMENT Greeting Card

DogByte® Greeting Card Store® SE

An easy-to-use program for creating custom greeting cards and matching envelopes for any occasion. Choose from hundreds of pre-made designs and customize them however you like, with imported digital photos, personal message text, special effects, and drag-and-drop graphics from the program's library.



Alfy.com

A shortcut on your desktop lets you view a one minute Alfy movie introducing you to this fun, creative children's web portal.

If you haven't yet installed the printer software or *Reference Guide* from your CD-ROM, see the *Start Here* sheet for instructions.

About Your Documentation

To set up your printer and install its software, see the *Start Here* sheet. This book contains system requirements, important safety information, and instructions on:

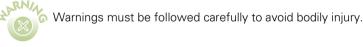
- Viewing your electronic printer manual
- Printing with Windows[®]
- Using special papers
- Maintaining the printer
- Solving basic problems

You'll find your product warranty on page 48.

For more details about printing with, maintaining, or troubleshooting your printer, see your electronic *Reference Guide*. For instructions on viewing it, see page 7.

Warnings, Cautions, Notes, and Tips

Please follow these guidelines:



Cautions must be observed to avoid damage to your equipment.



Notes contain important information about your printer.



Tips contain additional hints for better printing.

Windows System Requirements

To use your printer and its software, your system should have:

- An IBM[®] compatible PC with at least a 486/66 MHz (for Windows 98), Pentium[®] 133 MHz (for Windows 2000), or 486/25 MHz (for Windows 95 or Windows NT[®] 4.0) processor (Pentium or higher processor recommended)
- Microsoft Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT 4.0, or Windows 2000
- At least 16MB (for Windows 95, 98, or NT 4.0) or 32MB (for Windows 2000) of RAM (32MB for Windows 95 or 98, or 64MB for Windows NT 4.0 or 2000 recommended)
- At least 50MB of free hard disk space (100MB recommended)
- VGA, Super VGA, or better display adapter and monitor
- Double-speed (2x) CD-ROM or DVD drive (quad-speed [4x] or faster recommended) for installing the printer software
- For parallel connection: a high-speed, bidirectional, IEEE-1284 compliant parallel cable (6 to 10 feet long); the cable must have a D-SUB, 25-pin, male connector for your computer and a 36-pin, Centronics[®] compatible connector for the printer.

For USB connection: an EPSON® USB/Parallel Adapter cable.

Important Safety Instructions

Before using your printer, read the following safety instructions to make sure you use the printer safely and effectively:

- Be sure to follow all warnings and instructions marked on the printer.
- Use only the type of power source indicated on the printer's label.
- Connect all equipment to properly grounded power outlets. Avoid using outlets controlled by a wall switch or automatic timer, or those on the same circuit as photocopiers or air control systems that regularly switch on and off.
- Place the printer near a wall outlet where the plug can be easily unplugged.

Placez l'imprimante près d'une prise murale où la fiche peut être débranchée facilement.

- Do not let the power cord become damaged or frayed.
- If you use an extension cord with the printer, make sure the total ampere rating of the devices plugged into the extension cord does not exceed the cord's ampere rating. Also, make sure the total ampere rating of all devices plugged into the wall outlet does not exceed the wall outlet's ampere rating.
- Unplug the printer's power cord from the electrical outlet when you don't use the printer for a long period of time.
- Keep your printer and computer system away from potential sources of electromagnetic interference, such as loudspeakers or cordless telephone base units.
- Avoid locations for the printer that are subject to rapid changes in heat or humidity, shocks or vibrations, or dust.
- Leave enough room around the printer for sufficient ventilation.
- Do not place the printer near a radiator or heating vent or in direct sunlight.
- Place the printer on a flat, stable surface that extends beyond the printer base in all directions. The printer won't operate properly if it is tilted.
- Leave enough room at the front of the printer for paper to eject smoothly.
- Do not block or cover the openings in the printer's case or insert objects through the slots.

5

- Unplug the printer before cleaning. Clean with a damp cloth only. Do not spill liquid on the printer.
- Except as specifically explained in this manual, do not attempt to service the printer yourself.
- Unplug the printer and refer to your warranty on page 48 for service instructions.

Ink Cartridge Safety Instructions

- Keep ink cartridges out of the reach of children and do not drink the ink.
- Under normal circumstances, ink will not come out of the cartridge. If it does get on your skin, wash it off with soap and water. If it gets in your eyes, flush them immediately with water.
- Do not put your hand inside the printer or touch the cartridge during printing.
- Do not move the print head by hand; otherwise you may damage the printer.
- Install the ink cartridge immediately after you remove it from its foil package. Leaving the cartridge unpacked for a long time before use may result in reduced print quality.
- Do not use an ink cartridge beyond the date printed on the cartridge package. For best results, use up the ink cartridges within six months of installing them.
- Do not shake an ink cartridge; this can cause leakage.
- Once you install an ink cartridge, do not open the clamp or remove the cartridge except to replace it with a new one. The cartridge may become unusable otherwise.
- Do not dismantle the ink cartridges or try to refill them. This could result in damage to the print head.
- Before transporting the printer, make sure the print head is capped in the far right position and the ink cartridges are in place.

Viewing Your Electronic Printer Manual

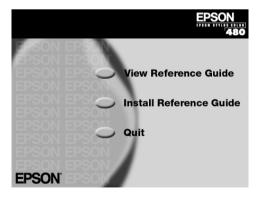
Your printer software CD-ROM includes an electronic *Reference Guide* for your printer. The manual is in HTML format, so you need a browser—such as Internet Explorer or Netscape Navigator, version 3.0 or later—to view it. If you are using a different browser, the pages may not display correctly. (A browser is not included on the printer software CD-ROM.)

Accessing Your Electronic Printer Manual

You can view your electronic *Reference Guide* from the CD-ROM or copy it to your hard drive and view it from there. Follow these steps:

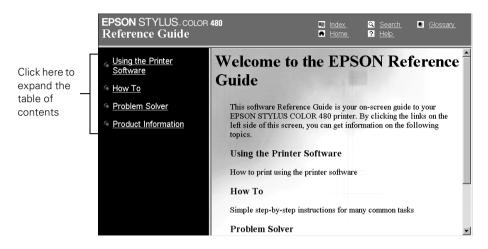
- 1. Insert your printer software CD-ROM.
- 2. Double-click A **V Computer**, double-click your CD-ROM or DVD drive icon, then double-click the **Epson** icon. You see the Main Menu.
- 3. Double-click View Electronic Documentation. This submenu appears:
- You can either view the manual from the CD-ROM (View Reference Guide) or copy the manual to your hard drive (Install Reference Guide) and view it from there. For details on viewing the manual, see the next section.

Once you've copied the manual to your hard drive, you can access it at any time. Select Start, Programs, EPSON, and double-click ESC480 Guide.



Navigating Your Electronic Printer Manual

When you first open the Reference Guide, you see this screen:



Click a topic on the left to expand the table of contents. After expanding the table of contents, you can click on the topic you want to view.

If there's a right arrow , click it to view subtopics, then click on a topic to go to it. Click the down arrow to close a subtopic list.

	EPSON STYLUS COLOR Reference Guide	480 🔤 index 🔍 Search 🔳 <u>Glossary</u> 🛋 <u>Home</u> 💈 <u>Help</u>
Closed list, click to expand Click to go to topic	Cusing the Printer Software Software Paper Handling Setting Up Your Printer on a Network Replacing Ink Cartridges Replacing an Empty Ink Cartridge Replacing an Onty Ink Cartridge Replacing an Onty Of or Damaged Ink Cartridge Checking the Ink Supply Maintenance Problem Solver Product Information	 Welcome to the EPSON Reference Guide This software Reference Guide is your on-screen guide to your EPSON STYTUUS COLOR 480 printer. By clicking the links on the left side of this screen, you can get information on the following topics. Using the Printer Software How to print using the printer software How To Simple step-by-step instructions for many common tasks

Printing from Start to Finish

Here's what to do to print a basic document—such as a memo, newsletter, or photograph—from loading the paper to selecting print settings to controlling the print job. Follow the instructions in "Basic Printing" below.

If you're already familiar with EPSON ink jet printing, you can skip ahead to "Using PhotoEnhance, Custom, and Advanced Settings" on page 14.

For instructions on using special papers—such as EPSON Photo Paper or envelopes—see page 16.

Basic Printing

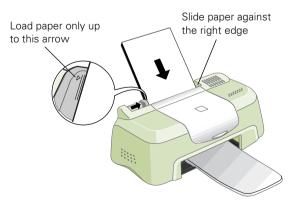
This section describes these basic steps for printing with Windows:

- Loading paper
- Opening the printer software
- Selecting printer software settings
- Controlling printing

Loading Paper

Make sure your printer and computer are turned on.

Place your paper against the right edge of the sheet feeder and slide the left edge guide against the paper.



Keep the following in mind when loading paper:

- Load the printable side face up. It's usually whiter or brighter than the other side.
- Load letterhead or preprinted paper into the printer top edge first.
- Don't load paper above the arrow on the left edge guide.

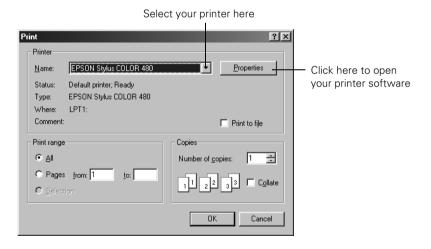


If you're printing on envelopes or other special paper sizes or types, see page 16 for loading instructions.

Opening the Printer Software

After you open your application program and create your document, you're ready to select your printer software settings.

From the File menu, click **Print**. You see your application's Print dialog box (your dialog box may look slightly different):



Make the following selections on the Print dialog box:

- Make sure EPSON Stylus COLOR 480 is selected.
- Click the Properties button. (If you see a Setup, Printer, or Options button, click it. Then click Properties on the next screen.)

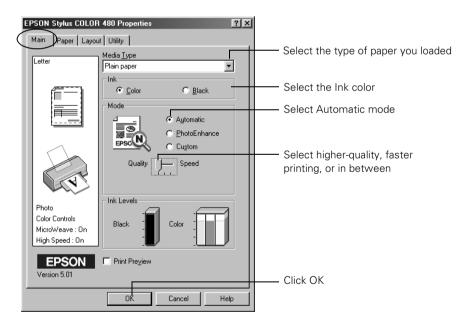


If you click the print icon on your application's tool bar instead of selecting Print from the File menu, you may not get the option to change the printer software settings before printing.

Selecting Printer Software Settings

Once you click Properties, you see your printer software Properties dialog box.

The most important thing to remember is to set the correct Media Type for the paper you're using. If necessary, click the Main tab to display the settings shown below:



Make the following settings on the Properties dialog box:

- Choose the paper you're printing on (click the arrow to scroll through the Media Type list). If you're not sure which setting to select, see page 19.
- Set the Ink option to Color to print a color document. To print a black text document, click Black.

Media <u>T</u> ype
Plain paper 💌
Plain paper
360 dpi Ink Jet Paper
Photo Quality Ink Jet Paper
Matte Paper - Heavyweight
Photo Paper
Photo Quality Glossy Film
Ink Jet Transparencies

- Set the Mode option to Automatic. It's the easiest way to get good printing results on all types of paper.
- Set the slider in the Mode box to Quality or Speed to select high resolution, faster printing, or an in between setting. (The slider may not be available for your paper type.)
- Click OK to return to your application's Print dialog box.



For more information about printer settings, click the Help button. Or you can right-click any item on the screen and then click What's This?.

Selecting Windows Default Settings

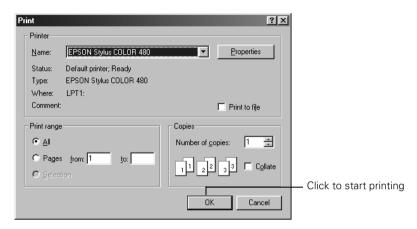
The printer settings you make apply only to the application you're currently using. If you usually print one type of document in different applications—for example, black ink on legal size paper—you can change the default printer settings for all your programs. You do this using the Windows Printers utility:

- 1. Click Start, point to Settings, and then select Printers.
- 2. Right-click the EPSON Stylus COLOR 480 icon.
- 3. Select Properties (Document Defaults in Windows NT; Printing Preferences in Windows 2000).
- 4. Click the Main tab.
- 5. Select the default settings you want to use for all your applications. Click OK when you're finished.

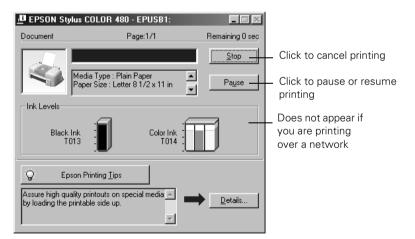
You can always change the default settings in your application when you want to print different types of documents. You can also save a group of common settings; see the electronic *Reference Guide* (described on page 7) for details.

Controlling Printing

At the Print dialog box, click OK (or maybe Print) to start printing.



After a moment, the Progress Meter appears and shows the progress of your print job. You can use the buttons to cancel, pause, or restart printing. You can also see how much ink you have left and view printing tips.



For more advanced printer settings, see the next section. For more information on printing—for example, previewing your printout, changing the paper size, or adding a watermark—see your electronic *Reference Guide* (described on page 7).

Using PhotoEnhance, Custom, and Advanced Settings

When you're printing special projects, you can customize your printer software settings, as described in these sections:

- "Using PhotoEnhance" below
- "Using Custom Settings" on page 15
- "Using Advanced Settings" on page 15

For additional information on these settings, see the electronic *Reference Guide*, as described on page 7.

Using PhotoEnhance

The printer software includes PhotoEnhance[™] options that increase image brightness and contrast to improve the appearance of low-resolution photos. You can also add special effects, such as Soft Focus.



If you're printing high-resolution images, you may want to use the Automatic setting instead, as described on page 11.

PhotoEnhance does not affect your original image; it only affects your printout. Printing with PhotoEnhance may take longer on some systems and images.

To use PhotoEnhance, you must select **Color** ink; you cannot turn on PhotoEnhance with **Black** ink selected.

If your photograph was taken with a digital camera, you can select **Digital Camera Correction** to give your printed images the appearance of photographs taken with a film camera.

For more fine-tuning, you can select from a list of specialized settings for photographs, such as **People** or **Nature**, or select special filters, such as **Soft Focus** or **Sepia**.

Using Custom Settings

Your printer software includes custom project types with preset printing options. This lets you quickly select a color-matching method for your project. You can select from these project types:

- ICM (Image Color Matching; Windows 95, 98, and 2000 only): For printing documents created in an ICM compatible application.
- SRGB (standard Red Green Blue; recommended only with Windows 98 or Windows 2000): For printing documents created in an sRGB compatible application using sRGB colors, such as those designed for the World Wide Web. See your Windows 98 or Windows 2000 online help for details.

To access these settings, click **Custom**, then click the **Custom Settings** list to open it.



You can also fine-tune these settings on the Advanced dialog box to fit your individual needs, as described below.

Using Advanced Settings

For maximum control over your project, you can customize your print settings such as Print Quality and Gamma—and use special effects.

To access these settings in your printer software, click **Custom** and then click the **Advanced** button.

After you customize your print settings on the Advanced dialog box, you can save them as a group so you can reuse them whenever you print a similar project. See your electronic *Reference Guide* (described on page 7) for details.

Using Special Papers

How can you get the best-looking photos, most vivid colors, and sharpest text? Always use EPSON's special ink jet papers. Instructions for printing on EPSON Photo Paper and on envelopes are given in the following sections.

For instructions on loading and using other EPSON special ink jet papers, see your electronic *Reference Guide*, as described on page 7.

For a list of EPSON special ink jet papers and ordering information, see the inside front cover.

EPSON Photo Paper

You can use EPSON Photo Paper to print photographs that look almost as good as the ones you get from film processing. Photo Paper is available in a variety of sizes.

Keep the following in mind when using EPSON Photo Paper:

- Always load the paper with the whiter (glossier) side facing up.
- Load Photo Paper or Panoramic Photo Paper one sheet at a time. Use a support sheet if it is included in the paper package.
- Select Photo Paper as the Media Type setting.
- To keep your printouts looking their best, store them in a resealable plastic bag or other airtight covering and protect them from heat, humidity, and direct sunlight. Return unused paper to the original package as soon as you finish printing.

If you're using letter-size or A4-size Photo Paper, follow the instructions on page 9 to load and print on the paper. If you're using 4×6 -inch or Panoramic Photo Paper, see the next sections.

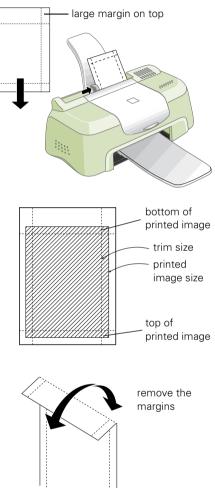
4 × 6-inch Photo Paper

EPSON 4×6 -inch Photo Paper is micro-perforated around the edges so you can trim your printouts and "bleed" the photo—extend it to the edge of the paper—on all sides.

 Load the paper against the right edge of the sheet feeder with the glossy side facing up and the perforated margins positioned as shown. Then slide the left edge guide against the paper.

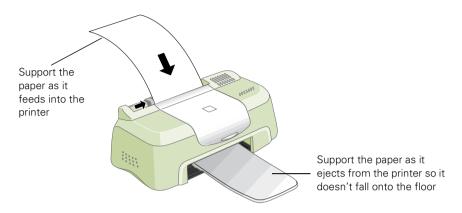
Place the included support sheets A and B beneath the paper. (If you don't have the support sheets, use plain paper cut to size.)

- 2. When you create the image in your application software, size it to 4.25×6.25 inches. Or use your printer software's Reduce/Enlarge settings, as described in your electronic *Reference Guide*.
- 3. Choose Photo Paper as the Media Type setting.
- 4. Choose Photo Paper 4 × 6 in as the Paper Size setting and Maximum as the Printable Area setting.
- 5. After you print your picture, fold the paper back and forth along the perforations and carefully tear off the margins.



Panoramic Photo Paper

1. Load one sheet of Panoramic paper, glossy side up.



- Choose Photo Paper as the Media Type setting and Panoramic 210 × 594 mm as the Paper Size setting in your printer software.
- 3. Send your print job, then hold up the paper's top edge as it begins feeding into the printer. Also support the paper as it ejects from the printer.

Envelopes

You can load up to 10 envelopes at a time, flap edge first and printable side up. Place them against the right side of the sheet feeder and slide the left edge guide against them.

(You'll get better results if you press each envelope flat before loading it, or load one envelope at a time.)



Select **Plain paper** as the Media Type setting and choose the correct envelope size as the Paper Size setting.

If the printing smears or you have banding (light lines), try turning off High Speed printing in the Advanced dialog box. (See page 15 for instructions on accessing the dialog box.)

Selecting the Correct Media Type

Your printer automatically adjusts itself for the type of paper you select in your printer software. That's why the Media Type setting is so important. It tells your printer what kind of paper you're using and adjusts the ink coverage accordingly.

Media <u>Type</u>
Plain paper
Plain paper
S60 dpi Ink Jet Paper
Photo Quality Ink Jet Paper
Matte Paper - Heavyweight
Photo Paper
Photo Quality Glossy Film
Ink Jet Transparencies

Here are the Media Type settings you should choose for your paper:

For this paper	Select this Media Type
Plain paper sheets or envelopes	Plain paper
EPSON Glossy Photo Greeting Cards (inside surface)	
EPSON 360 dpi Ink Jet Paper	360 dpi Ink Jet Paper
EPSON Iron-On Cool Peel Transfer Paper	
EPSON High Quality Ink Jet Paper	Photo Quality Ink Jet Paper
EPSON Photo Quality Ink Jet Paper	
EPSON Photo Quality Ink Jet Cards	
EPSON Photo Quality Ink Jet Note Cards	
EPSON Photo Quality Self Adhesive Sheets	
EPSON Matte Paper - Heavyweight	Matte Paper - Heavyweight
EPSON Photo Paper	Photo Paper
EPSON Photo Quality Glossy Paper	
EPSON Glossy Photo Greeting Cards (outside surface)	
EPSON Photo Quality Glossy Film	Photo Quality Glossy Film
EPSON Photo Stickers	
EPSON Ink Jet Transparencies	Ink Jet Transparencies



If any paper you buy comes with a cleaning sheet, don't use the cleaning sheet with this printer; it may jam inside the printer.

Maintaining Your Printer

This section describes maintenance procedures to keep your printer working at its best and preparation steps for moving your printer. Follow the instructions here for:

- Cleaning the print head (below)
- Aligning the print head (on page 24)
- Replacing an ink cartridge (on page 25)
- Cleaning the printer (on page 29)
- Transporting the printer (on page 30)

For more details, see your electronic Reference Guide, as described on page 7.

Cleaning the Print Head

If your printed image is unexpectedly light or faint, or dots or lines are missing from the image, you may need to clean the print head. This unclogs the nozzles so they can deliver ink properly.

You can check to see if any nozzles are clogged by running the Nozzle Check utility. Then, if you need to clean the print heads, you can do so from the utility. See the next section for instructions.

If you don't want to check the nozzles first, you can run the Head Cleaning utility to clean the print head, as described on page 23.

Cleaning the print head uses ink, so clean it only if print quality declines.



When you don't turn on your printer for a long time, the print quality can decline. It's a good idea to plug in your printer at least once a month to maintain good print quality.

> If any paper you buy comes with a cleaning sheet, don't use the cleaning sheet with your printer; it may jam inside the printer.

Printing a Nozzle Check

Follow these steps to run the Nozzle Check utility:

- Make sure the printer is plugged in but not printing.
- Right-click the Status Monitor 3 icon on your Windows taskbar, then select Nozzle Check in the menu that appears. You see this window:





To right-click, place your cursor on the S Status Monitor 3 icon and click the right mouse button.

If you have an application running, you can also run the utility by accessing the printer settings dialog box as described on page 10. Click the Utilities tab, then click the Nozzle Check button.

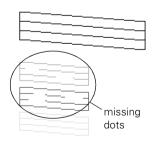
- 3. Make sure letter-size or larger paper is loaded in the printer and click **Print** to print a nozzle check pattern.
- 4. Examine the nozzle check pattern you print.

Each staggered horizontal and straight vertical line should be complete, with no gaps in the dot pattern.

5. If your printout looks okay, click Finish.

If any dots are missing, as shown here, click Clean and follow the instructions on the screen to clean the print head again. (The actual test prints the lower pattern in color.)

If you don't see any improvement after cleaning three or four times, check the solutions in "Problems Getting Good Print Quality" on page 36. You can also turn the printer off and wait overnight—this allows any dried ink to soften—and then try cleaning the print head again.



Using the Head Cleaning Utility

Follow these steps to run the Head Cleaning utility:

- 1. Make sure the printer is plugged in but not printing.
- Right-click the Status Monitor 3 icon on your Windows taskbar, then select Head Cleaning in the menu that appears. You see this window:

Head Clea	aning 🔀
Be wi U: cli	he printer will clean the print head nozzles. scause cleaning consumes rink, you should only clean the print heads ner faint areas or gos aspear in your printout. Is the Nozzle Check, utility to confirm that the print heads need to be aread.
	o begin cleaning the print heads, click the Start button. ick the Cancel button to out. Cancel Start



To right-click, place your cursor on the Satus Monitor 3 icon and click the right mouse button.

If you have an application running, you can also run the Head Cleaning utility by accessing the printer settings dialog box as described on page 10. Click the Utilities tab, then click the Head Cleaning button.

3. Click **Start** and follow the instructions on the screen to clean the print head. Cleaning takes about 30 seconds, during which the print head moves and the printer makes some noise.



Never unplug the printer while it's cleaning the print head.

- 4. When cleaning is finished, run a nozzle check to confirm the print head nozzles are clean. Click Print Nozzle Check Pattern.
- 5. Make sure letter-size or larger paper is loaded in the printer. Then follow the instructions on the screen to print a nozzle check.
- 6. See page 22 for details on examining the nozzle check pattern. If the nozzle check pattern isn't missing any dots, click Finish.

Head Cleaning 🛛 🔀
Cleaning has finished. To check the effectiveness of the cleaning, click Pint Nozzle Check Patern.
Print Nozale Check Pattern Finish

If any dots are missing, click Clean and follow the instructions on the screen to clean the print head again.

If you don't see any improvement after cleaning three or four times, check the solutions in "Problems Getting Good Print Quality" on page 36. You can also turn the printer off and wait overnight—this allows any dried ink to soften—and then try cleaning the print head again.

Aligning the Print Head

If your printouts contain misaligned vertical lines, you may need to align the print head. Your printer must be connected directly to your computer, not connected over a network, to use the Print Head Alignment utility. Follow these steps:

1. Make sure the printer is plugged in but not printing, and letter-size or larger paper is loaded.



For the best results, load EPSON ink jet paper in the printer whenever you check the print head alignment. Don't use plain, recycled, or photocopier paper.

2. Right-click the Status Monitor 3 icon on your Windows taskbar, then select Print Head Alignment in the menu that appears. You see the window below:





To right-click, place your cursor on the Satus Monitor 3 icon and click the right mouse button.

If you have an application running, you can also run the Print Head Alignment utility by accessing the printer settings dialog box as described on page 10. Click the Utilities tab, then click the Print Head Alignment button.

- 3. Click Next to print an alignment page. You see this window:
- 4. On the printed page, select the pattern that shows the two vertical lines most precisely printed on top of each other. Select one pattern each for rows 1, 2, and 3. Then enter the number of the best pattern for each row in the corresponding boxes on the screen and click Finish.

A+A	Look at the alignment sheet.
	Find the patterns on the printed sheet that are vertically aligned, for #1 - #3 Then click the drop down list and select the number of those alignment patterns from the lists below and click "Finish". This will make the new settings take effect.
	If you cannot find an aligned pattern, select the number that is closest to being aligned, and click "Realignment". The alignment sheet will be printed again.
	#1 8 💌
	#2 8 💌
	#3 8 💌

If there isn't a precisely aligned pattern, enter the numbers of the best aligned patterns in each row and click Realignment. Another alignment page prints with your selections printed as patterns numbered 8. Repeat step 4 to select a more precise pattern for each row.

Replacing an Ink Cartridge

When your ink levels are low, Status Monitor 3 displays a message on your screen. When you see the message, it's a good time to make sure you have a new cartridge or replace it right away.

When an ink cartridge is empty, Status Monitor 3 displays another message and you must replace the cartridge to resume printing.

You may also need to replace an ink cartridge if it's more than six months old and your printouts don't look as good as they used to. If print quality doesn't improve after cleaning and aligning the print head, you can replace one or both cartridges.



You cannot print if either ink cartridge is empty or not installed. Leave You cannot print if entries into calculage to the print you have obtained a the empty cartridge installed in the printer until you have obtained a replacement. Otherwise the ink remaining in the print head nozzles may dry out.

Use these EPSON ink cartridges within six months of installing them and before the expiration date on the package:

Black ink cartridge: T013201 (U.S. and Latin America) T013311 (Canada) Color ink cartridge: T014201 (U.S. and Latin America)

T014311 (Canada)



To ensure good results, use genuine EPSON ink cartridges and do not refill them. Other products may cause damage to your printer not covered by EPSON's warranty.

When you need new ink cartridges, contact your dealer or call EPSON at (800) 873-7766 or visit our web site at www.epson.com (U.S. sales only). In Canada, please call (800) 873-7766 for dealer referral.

Before you replace a cartridge, be sure to read the precautions below.

To replace a cartridge when you see a Status Monitor 3 message, see "Replacing a Low or Empty Ink Cartridge" on page 27.

To replace an old cartridge, see "Replacing an Outdated Ink Cartridge" on page 28.

Ink Cartridge Precautions

Before you replace an ink cartridge, follow these precautions:



Keep ink cartridges out of the reach of children and do not drink the ink.

If ink gets on your hands, wash them thoroughly with soap and water. If ink gets into your eyes, flush them immediately with water.



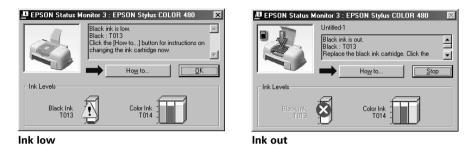
To avoid damaging the printer, never move the print head by hand.

Don't open the clamp or remove a cartridge except to replace it with a new one. Once you remove a cartridge, you can't reuse it, even if it contains ink.

You must remove the yellow tape from the top of the cartridge or you will permanently damage it. Don't try to remove the clear seal underneath the cartridge.

Replacing a Low or Empty Ink Cartridge

When Status Monitor 3 indicates that ink levels are low or you're out of ink, you see one of these windows:



Before you begin, make sure you have a new ink cartridge and have read the ink cartridge precautions above. Once you start the ink cartridge replacement procedure, you must complete all the steps in one session.

- 1. Click the **How to** button.
- 2. Follow the instructions on the screen to replace the ink cartridge.
- 3. After you've installed the cartridge, the printer begins charging ink for several minutes. Wait until you see a message telling you that charging is complete before resuming printing.



Never unplug the printer while it's charging ink.

Replacing an Outdated Ink Cartridge

If you need to replace an ink cartridge before you see a Status Monitor 3 message, follow the steps here to use the Ink Cartridge Replacement utility. Before you begin, make sure you've read the ink cartridge precautions on page 26.

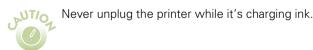


You can only access the Ink Cartridge Replacement utility from the Windows Printers utility, as described in the steps below. You can't run the utility from within a Windows application.

- 1. Make sure the printer is plugged in but not printing.
- 2. Click Start, point to Settings, then select Printers.
- Right-click the EPSON Stylus COLOR 480 icon and click Properties from the menu that appears. You see this window:
- Click the Utility tab, then click the Ink Cartridge Replacement button.
- 5. Follow the instructions on the screen to replace the ink cartridge.
- After you've installed the cartridge, the printer begins charging ink for several minutes. Wait until you see a



message telling you that charging is complete before resuming printing.



Cleaning the Printer

To keep your printer working at its best, you should clean it several times a year. Follow these steps:

- 1. Unplug the printer's power cord and disconnect the printer cable.
- 2. Remove all the paper from the sheet feeder.
- 3. Clean the exterior of the printer with a soft, damp cloth.
- 4. Clean ink out of the printer's interior with a soft, damp cloth.



Don't touch the gears inside the printer.

Never use a hard or abrasive brush, or alcohol or thinner for cleaning; they can damage the printer components and case.

Don't get water on the printer components and don't spray lubricants or oils inside the printer.

Don't use any cleaning sheets included with special media; they may jam inside the printer.

Transporting the Printer

If you move your printer some distance, you need to prepare it for transportation in its original box or one of a similar size. Follow these steps:



To avoid damage, always leave the ink cartridges installed when transporting the printer.

Be sure to remove the tape used in step 4 after installing the printer in its new location.

- 1. Plug in the printer, wait until the print head locks in the far right position, then unplug the printer.
- 2. Disconnect the printer cable from the printer.
- 3. Remove any paper from the printer and remove the paper support and output tray.
- 4. Open the printer cover. Secure the ink cartridge holder to the printer with tape as shown, then close the printer cover.
- 5. Repack the printer and attachments in the original box using the protective materials that came with it.

Tape the ink cartridge holder to the printer case

Be sure to keep the printer level as you transport it.

After transporting the printer, remove the tape securing the print head and then print a document. If you notice a decline in print quality, clean the print head (see page 21); if output is misaligned, align the print head (see page 24).

Problem Solving

Because your printer constantly monitors its status, it will report to you if it has a problem such as jammed paper or low ink levels. It does this by displaying an EPSON Status Monitor 3 window on your screen telling you what the problem is and guiding you through the solution steps.



If you see a status monitor window, follow the on-screen instructions. If that doesn't solve the problem, check "Problems and Solutions" beginning on page 33 for additional steps.

For problems that your printer can't report to you—such as installation or print quality problems—look for a section describing the problem beginning on page 33.

For help identifying the parts of your printer, see page 32.

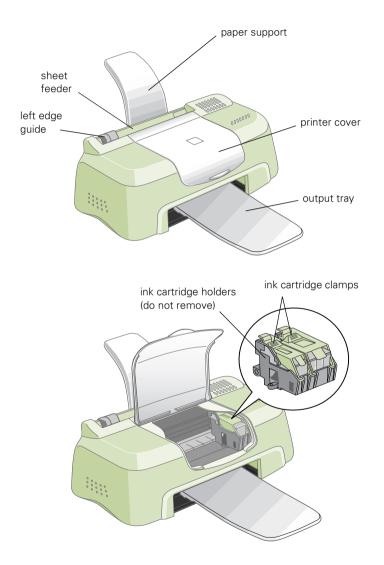
If you need to contact EPSON or one of your bonus software manufacturers, see page 41 or page 42.



It's a good idea to check EPSON's web site periodically for possible updates to your printer driver. Visit support.epson.com and check the section for your product to see if there is a new driver available for downloading to your computer. To check the version number of your current driver, access the Properties dialog box, as described on page 10; the version number is shown in the lower left corner.

Identifying Printer Parts

If you need help identifying the parts of the printer, refer to these illustrations:



Problems and Solutions

Here are some basic troubleshooting tips if you have any problems setting up your printer, installing software, getting good print quality, feeding paper, or other miscellaneous problems. For additional tips, see your electronic *Reference Guide* as described on page 7.

Problems Setting Up the Printer or Installing Software

The printer started making noise after ink cartridge installation.

- The first time you install ink cartridges, the printer must charge its ink delivery system for about two minutes. Wait until charging finishes before sending a print job. If you unplug the printer while it's charging, it may not charge properly and use more ink than necessary the next time you plug it in.
- Make sure the ink cartridge clamps are locked down completely and that no packing material remains in the printer. Unplug the printer, wait a few seconds, then plug it in again to resume printing.

You're having problems installing the printer software.

- Carefully follow the instructions on the *Start Here* sheet.
- Make sure your printer cable is securely connected to the printer and computer.
- Make sure you've closed all other applications, including any screen savers and virus protection software. Then try uninstalling and reinstalling the printer software.

You're printing over a network.

See your electronic *Reference Guide* for instructions on configuring your printer for use on a network.

Problems with Printing

The printer is plugged in and connected, but nothing prints.

If your computer can't send the print job successfully, you may see a communication error window on your screen. Click the **Stop** button, then try the following:

- Make sure the printer cable is connected securely and that the cable meets the system requirements on page 4. If the cable doesn't meet the specifications or is inoperable, try a different cable.
- The printer may not be receiving power. Make sure it is plugged in securely and that the electrical outlet is operable and not controlled by a wall switch or timer. If in doubt, try another outlet.
- Make sure you installed the printer software and both ink cartridges as described on the *Start Here* sheet. Also check that your printer is selected in your application or as your default Windows printer.
- If you're printing on a network, you need to set up your printer for network printing as described in your electronic *Reference Guide*.

The printer sounds as though it is printing, but nothing prints.

You may need to clean the print head as described on page 21. If that doesn't work, try installing a new ink cartridge; see page 28 for instructions.

You see a General or Unknown error window on your screen.

Unplug your printer, make sure no packing material is left inside it, and then plug it back in and try to print. If you still see the error window, contact your dealer or EPSON; see page 41 for contact information.

Printing is too slow.

Make sure your system meets the requirements listed on page 4. If you're printing a high-resolution image, you need more than the minimum requirements listed.

You may also need to:

- Clear space on your hard disk or run a defragmentation utility.
- Close open applications that you're not using.
- Increase your system's memory (RAM).

For the fastest printing, try the following:

- Choose **Black** ink if your document doesn't include color.
- Set the Quality/Speed slider to **Speed**.
- In the printer software's Advanced dialog box, turn MicroWeave off and turn High Speed on.
- If the printer is connected to your computer's parallel port, enable ECP/DMA mode on the port for maximum print speeds. See your computer documentation or contact the manufacturer for instructions.

Your printer makes noise when you plug it in or after it has been sitting for a while.

Your printer is performing routine maintenance.

Problems Getting Good Print Quality

You see banding.

- Make sure the print head nozzles are not clogged. To clean the print head, see page 21.
- Make sure the Media Type setting matches the paper you loaded. See page 19 for guidelines.
- Make sure the printable side of the paper is face up. It is usually whiter or shinier.
- If you're low on ink, you'll see a low ink error window. Click How To and follow the on-screen instructions to install a new cartridge. If you don't see an error window, a cartridge may be more than six months old; to replace it, see page 28.
- Try using Automatic mode. See page 11 for instructions.
- Run the Print Head Alignment utility using EPSON ink jet paper. See page 24 for instructions.
- Turn off **High Speed** printing in the Advanced dialog box.

Your printout is blurry or smeared.

- Make sure your paper isn't damp, curled, or loaded face down (the printable side should be loaded face up). If it's damp or curled, load new paper.
- Use a support sheet with special paper or try loading your paper one sheet at a time.



- Make sure your paper meets the specifications listed in your electronic *Reference Guide*.
- Run the Print Head Alignment utility using EPSON ink jet paper. See page 24 for instructions.



Your printout is faint or has gaps in the image.

- Make sure the print head nozzles are not clogged. To clean the print head, see page 21.
- If you're low on ink, you'll see a low ink error window. Click How To and follow the on-screen instructions to install a new cartridge. If you don't



see an error window, a cartridge may be more than six months old; to replace it, see page 28.

- Make sure the Media Type setting matches the paper you loaded. See page 19 for guidelines.
- Make sure your paper isn't damaged, old, dirty, or loaded face down. If it is, reload a new stack of paper with the printable side up; it is usually whiter or shinier than the other side.

You see wrong or missing colors.

- Make sure you selected the Color ink setting and your application is set for color printing.
- Make sure the print head nozzles are not clogged. To clean the print head, see page 21.
- If you're low on ink, you'll see a low ink error window. Click How To and follow the on-screen instructions to install a new cartridge. If you don't see an error window, a cartridge may be more than six months old; to replace it, see page 28.
- If you're printing a high-resolution image, turn off PhotoEnhance. Also check if you've turned on a special effect that alters image colors, such as Sepia.
- Try using Automatic mode. See page 11 for instructions.
- Your printed colors can never exactly match your on-screen colors. However, you can use a color management system to get as close as possible. For information, see your electronic *Reference Guide*.

You see incorrect characters.

- Make sure the printer cable is securely connected and that the cable meets the system requirements on page 4.
- Make sure your printer is selected in your application or as the Windows default printer.
- If you're using a switch box with your printer, connect the printer directly to your computer and try printing again.

Your printout is grainy.

- Try using a higher quality paper.
- Set the Quality/Speed slider to Quality in your printer software; see page 11.
- Run the Print Head Alignment utility. See page 24 for instructions.
- You may need to increase the image resolution or print it in a smaller size; see your software documentation.

Problems with Paper Feeding

Too many copies are printing.

Make sure the **Copies** settings in the printer software and your application aren't both set for multiple copies.

Paper doesn't eject fully or is wrinkled.

- If the paper doesn't eject fully, you may see a paper jam error window on your screen. Click the Eject button to eject the paper. If it doesn't eject, follow the on-screen instructions to remove jammed paper.
- The problem may be caused by an incorrect paper size setting. Be sure to select the correct paper size in your application or printer software.
- Check to make sure you've left enough room at the front of the printer for paper to eject easily.
- If it's wrinkled when it ejects, the paper may be damp or too thin.

Paper doesn't feed.

You may see a paper not loaded correctly error window on your screen. Remove the stack of paper from the sheet feeder. Then check that the paper:

- Isn't curled or creased
- Isn't too old
- Isn't loaded above the arrow on the left edge guide
- Isn't jammed inside the printer.

Then reload the paper, making sure the left edge guide doesn't fit it too tightly. If you see an error window on your screen, click **Continue** to resume printing.

Paper jams inside the printer.

You may see a paper jam error message on your screen. Click the **Eject** button to eject the paper. If it doesn't eject, follow the on-screen instructions to remove it.

If necessary, unplug the printer, open the cover, and remove all the paper that's inside, including any small pieces that may have torn off.

If your paper jams frequently:

- Use smooth, high-quality paper, loaded printable side up (the whiter or shinier side on special ink jet paper).
- Fan the stack and then even the edges before loading it.
- Don't load paper above the arrow mark on the left edge guide.
- Always load the correct size paper for your print job.
- Place the paper against the right edge of the sheet feeder and slide the left edge guide against your paper.

Multiple pages feed at once.

Remove the stack of paper from the printer. Then:

- Make sure the paper isn't too thin.
- Fan the edges of the stack of paper to separate the sheets.
- Reload the paper as described on page 9.
- Make sure the left edge guide fits against the paper, but not too tightly.

39

Solving Miscellaneous Printout Problems

The margins are incorrect.

- Make sure the paper settings in your printer software are correct for your paper size. See the electronic *Reference Guide* for instructions.
- Check your software documentation for instructions on selecting the correct margins for your paper size. The margins must be within the printable area of the page, as described in "Specifications" in your electronic *Reference Guide*.

The image size or position is incorrect.

Make sure the paper and/or layout options are set correctly.

The image is inverted, as if viewed in a mirror.

Turn off Flip Horizontal in the printer software or the mirror setting in your application software. (If you're printing on EPSON Iron-On Cool Peel Transfer Paper, the image *should* be inverted so it looks correct when it's ironed on.)

The printer prints blank pages.

- Make sure the paper settings in the printer software are correct for your paper size. See your electronic *Reference Guide* for instructions.
- Make sure the print head nozzles are not clogged. To clean the print head, see page 21.
- If you recently replaced an ink cartridge, make sure the replacement cartridge was new.

Uninstalling and Reinstalling Printer Software

- 1. Double-click 🖳 My Computer, then double-click the Control Panel icon.
- 2. Double-click Add/Remove Programs. Click EPSON Printer Software in the program list, then select the EPSON Stylus COLOR 480 printer icon.
- 3. Click Add/Remove or Change/Remove and follow the instructions.

- 4. If your printer is connected to your computer's USB port, click EPSON USB Printer Devices in the program list; then click Add/Remove or Change/ Remove again.
- 5. Restart your computer, then follow the instructions on the *Start Here* sheet to reinstall your software. (You won't need to reinstall your bonus software or electronic manual.)

Where To Get Help

If you need help with your printer or its software, see the contact information below. For help with the bonus software that came on your printer software CD-ROM, see page 42 for contact information. If you need help using other software with an EPSON product, see the documentation for that software for technical support information.

EPSON Technical Support

EPSON provides technical assistance 24 hours a day through the electronic support services and automated telephone services listed in the following table:

Service	Access
World Wide Web	From the Internet, you can reach EPSON Support at http://support.epson.com . At this site, you can download drivers and other files, look at documentation such as product brochures and user manuals, and access troubleshooting information.
EPSON Internet FTP Site	If you have Internet FTP capability, use your Web browser (or other software for FTP downloading) to log onto ftp.epson.com with the user name anonymous and your e-mail address as the password.
EPSON E-Mail Technical Support	To receive technical advice through e-mail, go to http://support.epson.com and complete the form under the troubleshooting tab, as requested.
Automated Telephone Services	A variety of automated help services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To use these services, you must have a touch tone telephone and call (888) 377-6600 .

To speak to a technical support representative, dial one of the numbers below from 6 AM to 6 PM, Pacific Time, Monday through Friday. Toll or long distance charges may apply.

- U.S.: (562) 276-7580
- Canada: (905) 709-2567

EPSON Accessories

You can purchase ink cartridges, paper, manuals, and accessories from EPSON at (800) 873-7766 or visit our web site at www.epson.com (U.S. sales only). In Canada, please call (800) 873-7766 for dealer referral.

Bonus Software Technical Support

Before contacting technical support, know the type of computer and operating system you have, and make a note of the problem you're having, including any on-screen messages.

Software	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
ArcSoft PhotoPrinter and PhotoFantasy	(510) 440-9901 М-F, 8:30 ам to 5:30 рм (PST)	(510) 440-1270	support@arcsoft.com Or write to: ArcSoft, Inc. 46601 Fremont Blvd. Fremont, CA 94538
DogByte Greeting Card Store	Tech support: (323) 226-1480 Cust. service: (800) 936-4298	_	Write to: DogByte 612 Moulton Ave., Suite 7 Los Angeles, CA 90031
Alfy.com	(212) 430-3738		plus@alfy.com

Index

Numerics

360 dpi Ink Jet Paper, 19 4 x 6-inch Photo Paper, 16 to 17

A

Accessories, 26, 42 Advanced settings, 15 Aligning print head, 24 to 25, 36 Automatic mode, 11 to 12

B

Banding, 18, 36 Basic printing, 9 to 13 Blank pages, 40 Blurry images, 36 Bonus software, 2 Browser, 7

C

Cable, printer, 4, 34 Characters, incorrect, 38 Cleaning print head, 21 to 24 printer, 29 sheets, 19, 21, 29 Colors, incorrect, 37 Controlling printing, 13 Copies setting, 38 Custom project types, 15

D

Default settings, 12 Digital Camera Correction setting, 14 Documentation, 3, 7 to 8

E

Electronic manual, 1, 7 to 8 Empty ink cartridge, 27 Envelopes, 18 EPSON accessories, 26, 42 help, 41 to 42 papers, 16 to 19

F

Faint images, 37 Filters, 14 Flip Horizontal setting, 40

G

Gamma setting, 15 Glossy media, 19 Grainy printouts, 38

Η

Help, EPSON, 41 to 42 High Quality Ink Jet Paper, 19 High Speed setting, 18, 35 High-resolution images, 14, 37

I

ICM (Image Color Matching) setting, 15 Incorrect characters, 38 Incorrect colors, 37 Ink cartridge ordering, 26 replacing low or empty, 27 replacing outdated, 28 safety instructions, 6, 26 Ink Jet Transparencies, 19 Ink level, 13, 25 to 27 Ink setting, 11 to 12, 37 Inverted image, 40 Iron-On Cool Peel Transfer Paper, 19, 40

L

Layout problems, 40 Letterhead, 10 Low ink cartridge level, 27 Low-resolution images, 14

Μ

Maintaining printer, 21 to 29 Margin problems, 40 Matte Paper - Heavyweight, 19 Media Type setting, 11 to 12, 16 to 19 MicroWeave setting, 35 Mirror images, 40 Monitoring ink level, 13, 25 to 27 Moving printer, 30

N

Network printing, 33 Noise, 33, 35 Nozzle check pattern, 21 to 24

0

Outdated ink cartridges, 28

Р

Panoramic Photo Paper, 16, 18 Paper EPSON, 16 to 19 feeding problems, 38 to 39 loading, 9 to 10, 16 to 18 size, 13 Photo Paper, 16 to 19 Photo Quality Glossy Paper or Film, 19 Photo Quality Ink Jet Paper, 19 Photo Stickers, 19 PhotoEnhance, 14 Preprinted paper, 10 Previewing, 13 Print dialog box, 10 to 11, 13 Print head aligning, 24 to 25, 36 cleaning, 21 to 24 Print Head Alignment utility, 24 to 25, 36 Print quality problems, 36 to 38 Printable Area setting, 17 Printer cable, 4, 34 cleaning, 29 features, 1 maintaining, 21 to 29 noise, 33, 35 parts, 32 problems, 34 to 35 status, 13 transporting, 30 Printing advanced, 15 basic, 9 to 13 controlling, 13 with custom project types, 15 with PhotoEnhance, 14

Problems installing software, 33 miscellaneous, 40 paper feeding, 38 to 39 print quality, 36 to 38 printing, 34 to 35 setting up printer, 33 Progress Meter, 13 Project types, custom, 15 Properties dialog box, 11 to 12

Q

Quality/Speed setting, 11 to 12, 35

R

Reference Guide, 1, 7 to 8 Reinstalling software, 40 to 41

S

Safety instructions, 5 to 6 Saving settings, 15 Service, 41 to 42 Software bonus, 2 installation problems, 33 reinstalling, 40 to 41 uninstalling, 40 Special effects, 15 Special papers, 16 to 19 sRGB (Standard Red Green Blue) setting, 15 Status Monitor 3, 22 to 25, 27 to 28, 31 Support, 41 to 42 System requirements, 4

T

Technical support, 41 to 42 Transfer Paper, Iron-On Cool Peel, 19, 40 Transparencies, 19 Transporting printer, 30 Troubleshooting, 31 to 42

U

Uninstalling software, 40 USB, 4, 41 Utilities Head Cleaning, 21 to 24 Ink Cartridge Replacement, 28 Nozzle Check, 21 to 24 Print Head Alignment, 24 to 25 Status Monitor 3, 22 to 25, 27 to 28, 31

W

Watermark, 13 World Wide Web, 31, 41

FCC Compliance Statement

For United States Users

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio or television reception. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio and television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

WARNING

The connection of a non-shielded equipment interface cable to this equipment will invalidate the FCC Certification of this device and may cause interference levels which exceed the limits established by the FCC for this equipment. It is the responsibility of the user to obtain and use a shielded equipment interface cable with this device. If this equipment has more than one interface connector, do not leave cables connected to unused interfaces. Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

For Canadian Users

This Class B apparatus complies with Canadian ICES-003.

Cet appareil numérique de la classe B est conforme à la norme NMB-003 du Canada.

DECLARATION of CONFORMITY

According to 47CFR, Part 2 and 15 for Class B Personal Computers and Peripherals; and/or CPU Boards and Power Supplies used with Class B Personal Computers:

We: EPSON AMERICA, INC. Located at: MS 6-43 3840 Kilroy Airport Way Long Beach, CA 90806-2469 Telephone: (562) 290-5254

Declare under sole responsibility that the product identified herein, complies with 47CFR Part 2 and 15 of the FCC rules as a Class B digital device. Each product marketed is identical to the representative unit tested and found to be compliant with the standards. Records maintained continue to reflect the equipment being produced can be expected to be within the variation accepted, due to quantity production and testing on a statistical basis as required by 47CFR §2.909. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Trade Name:	EPSON
Type of Product:	Ink Jet Printer
Model:	P190A

EPSON AMERICA, INC. LIMITED WARRANTY

What is Covered: Epson America, Inc. ("Epson") warrants to the first end-user customer that the Epson printer covered by this limited warranty statement, if purchased and used in the United States or Canada, conforms to the manufacturer's specifications and will be free from defects in workmanship and materials for a period of ninety (90) days from the date of original purchase. Epson also warrants that the consumable ink cartridges enclosed with the printer will perform to the manufacturer's specified usage, which usage may expire before the expiration of the limited warranty for the Epson printer. For warranty service, you must provide proof of the date of original purchase.

What Epson Will Do To Correct Problems: Should your Epson printer prove defective during the warranty period, please call the Epson Connection at (562) 276-7580 (U.S.) or (905) 709-2567 (Canada) for warranty exchange instructions and return authorization. An Epson service technician will provide telephone diagnostic service to determine whether the unit requires replacement. If an exchange is needed, Epson will send you a replacement unit, freight prepaid, if you use an address in Canada or the U.S. (excluding Puerto Rico and U.S. possessions). Shipments to other locations will be made freight collect. You are responsible for securely packaging the defective printer and returning it to Epson within five (5) working days of receipt of the replacement unit. Epson will ask you for a credit card number to secure the cost of the replacement unit in the event that you fail to return the defective pointer. The replacement unit may be new or refurbished to the Epson's liability for replacement of the covered printer will not exceed the original retail selling price of the covered printer. Exchange products and parts assume the remaining warranty period of the original product covered by this limited warranty.

What This Warranty Does Not Cover: This warranty covers only normal use in the United States and Canada. This warranty does not cover damage to the Epson printer caused by parts or supplies not manufactured, distributed or certified by Epson. This warranty does not cover ribbons, ink cartridges or third party parts, components or peripheral devices added to the Epson printer after its shipment from Epson, e.g., dealer or user-added boards or components. Epson is not responsible for warranty service should the Epson label or logo or the rating label or serial number be removed or should the product fail to be properly maintained or fail to function properly as a result of misuse, abuse, improper installation, neglect, improper shipping, damage caused by disasters such as fire, flood, and lightning, improper electrical current, software problems, interaction with non-Epson products, or service other than by an Epson Authorized Servicer. If a claimed defect cannot be identified or reproduced, you will be held responsible for the costs incurred.

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How To Order EPSON Ink and Paper

To order EPSON ink cartridges and paper, contact your dealer or call EPSON at (800) 873-7766 or visit our web site at www.epson.com (U.S. sales only). In Canada, please call (800) 873-7766 for dealer referral.

Ink Cartridges: Black T013201 (U.S. and Latin America) or T013311 (Canada) Color T014201 (U.S. and Latin America) or T014311 (Canada)

EPSON Papers:

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EPSON 360 dpi Ink Jet Paper	Letter (8.5 x 11 inches) A4 (8.3 x 11.7 inches)	S041060 S041059
EPSON High Quality Ink Jet Paper	Letter (8.5 x 11 inches) A4 (8.3 x 11.7 inches)	S041111 S041117
EPSON Photo Quality Ink Jet Paper	Letter (8.5 x 11 inches) A4 (8.3 x 11.7 inches) Legal (8.5 x 14 inches)	S041062 S041061 S041067
EPSON Photo Quality Ink Jet Cards	A6 (4.1 x 5.8 inches)	S041054
EPSON Photo Quality Ink Jet Note Cards	A6 (4.1 x 5.8 inches)	S041147
EPSON Glossy Photo Greeting Cards	Letter (8.5 x 11 inches)	S041267
EPSON Photo Paper	4 x 6 inches Letter (8.5 x 11 inches) A4 (8.3 x 11.7 inches) Panoramic (8.3 x 23 inches)	S041134 S041141 S041140 S041145
EPSON Photo Stickers Kit (CD-ROM/paper) EPSON Photo Stickers (refill)	A6 (4.1 x 5.8 inches) A6 (4.1 x 5.8 inches)	S041144-KIT S041144
EPSON Photo Quality Glossy Film	Letter (8.5 x 11 inches) A4 (8.3 x 11.7 inches) A6 (4.1 x 5.8 inches)	S041072 S041071 S041107
EPSON Ink Jet Transparencies	Letter (8.5 x 11 inches)	S041064
EPSON Photo Quality Self Adhesive Sheets	A4 (8.3 x 11.7 inches)	S041106
EPSON Iron-On Cool Peel Transfer Paper	Letter (8.5 x 11 inches)	S041153/ S041155
EPSON Photo Quality Glossy Paper	Letter (8.5 x 11 inches) A4 (8.3 x 11.7 inches)	S041124 S041126
EPSON Matte Paper - Heavyweight	Letter (8.5 x 11 inches)	S041257